

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, in light of the preceding amendments and following remarks, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-8 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1-8 are amended. No new matter is added. Claim 1 is the sole independent claim.

In addition, Applicants submit that claims 1-8 are pending for this application, in which claims 6-8 have been added by a Preliminary Amendment filed February 17, 2008. Applicants request full examination of all claims, and submit that a "Final" rejection may not be issued in the next Patent Office communication as Applicants have not had a fair opportunity to rebut and/or argue the Examiner's rejection.

Applicants respectfully note that the present action does not indicate that the claim to foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. §119 has been acknowledged or that certified copies of all priority documents have been received by the U.S.P.T.O. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner's next communication include an indication as to the claim to foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. §119 and an acknowledgement of receipt of the certified copies of all priority documents.

Applicants also appreciate the Examiner's indication that the Information Disclosure Statement filed on February 3, 2006, has been considered.

Applicants also respectfully note that the present action does not indicate that the drawings have been accepted by the Examiner. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner's next communication include an indication as to the acceptability of the filed drawings or as to any perceived deficiencies so that the Applicants may have a full and fair opportunity to submit appropriate amendments and/or corrections to the drawings.

Objections to the Specification

The disclosure is objected to due to spelling errors. Applicants respectfully submit that the term “signalling” may be used interchangeably with “signaling.” See, *e.g.*, Dictionary.com, which indicates that the verb tense for “signal” may be “sig·naled or sig·nalled, sig·nal·ing or **sig·nal·ling**, sig·nals.” Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection are respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Application regards as the invention. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection for the reasons discussed below.

Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 has been amended, taking into consideration the Examiner’s comments, to obviate the rejection. For instance:

the term “a media identifier” in “for a MGCP/MEGACO signaling that is related to media, processing a media identifier correspondingly by the agent equipment and then forwarding” is amended to “a media attribute” (*support may be found page 2, line 25*); and

the technical feature of “an agent equipment between media gateways and a media gateway controller that locate in different networks” may be defined that media gateways and a media gateway controller “locate” in different networks.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection are respectfully requested.

Double Patenting Rejection

Claims 1-5 are provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory double patenting over claims 1-7 of copending Application No. 10/567,136, and further in view of Publication No. 2003/0093563 ("Young"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection for the reasons discussed below.

Applicants note that a Terminal Disclaimer will be filed once both applications have matured into a U.S. Patent. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the provisionally double patenting rejection be withdrawn, or held in abeyance and re-instituted once the claim scope of allowed claims in this or the other application has been indicated by the Examiner.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 7,224,696 ("Bouleros") in view of U.S. Patent Publication 2003/0093563 ("Young"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection for the reasons discussed below.

In order to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), all of the claim limitations of the rejected claims must be described or suggested by the cited document(s).¹ Applicants respectfully submit that the cited documents do not meet this criteria, because no modification and/or combination of the Bouleros and the Young references will describe or suggest all of the claim limitations of rejected claims 1-5, and therefore, a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been established.

For example, claim 1, as amended, recites, *inter alia*:

for a MGCP/MEGACO signaling sent from the media gateway controller to media gateway, sending the request message to corresponding media gateway by the agent equipment according to domain name in endpoint identifier.

Support for amended claim 1 may be found in the originally filed disclosure, e.g., page 7, lines 12-14.

The Bouleros reference only simply describes a network address translator (NAT) that is capable of address translation, but does not explain how to accomplish the translation of signaling and media that are controlled by MGC through a NAT equipment. For instance, the method described in Bouleros deals with a plurality of access nodes in a private communication network, in which the signaling agent is performed by the cooperation of Medial Gateway Multiplexer (MGM) and NAT equipments, wherein MGM, which is configured between a plurality of MG and NAT, has capability to transmit control messages between MGC and itself and to communicate with MG on the basis of the control messages received from MGC (See FIG. 1 of the Bouleros reference). However, it is respectfully submitted that the messages between MGM and MG are invisible to MGC, and each MG message is pre-configured in the MGM. In other words, MGM represents a plurality of MG in the enterprise networks, but only a MGM is visible to MGC, so it is not transparent between MG and MGC.

In addition, in the registration phase described in col. 9, lines 9-17 of Bouleros, the MGM alters the address details after receiving the registration message from MG

¹ See *In Re Royka*, 490 F.2d 98, 180 USPQ 580 (CCPA 1974). See also MPEP § 2143.03.

such that the MGC will “think” that the registration message was sent from the MGM. Accordingly, the registration phase can be accomplished in need of the cooperation of MGM and NAT, and the registration message of each MG arrive at MGM rather than at MGC and then is forwarded to MGC after being processed by MGC, after the acknowledgement message is sent back from the MGC to the MGM, the content in the signaling is changed (as shown in 95 of FIG. 7 in Bouleros) and then sent to the MG. Therefore, all the technical solutions disclosed by the Bouleros reference are based on NAT. As discussed in the background section of the present application, methods based on NAT has many problems, *e.g.*, 1) agent equipment cannot make MGC entirely transparent, 2) complexity for realizing call services on MGC is increased, and 3) detailed information on corresponding MG needs to be configured on the agent equipment, and, thus, any change on MG under control of MGC requires informing the agent equipment to change configuration, which increases operation maintenance cost. In contrast, the claimed invention is to overcome shortcomings for methods based on NAT, *e.g.*, to implement transparent traversing of MGCP/MEGACO protocol among different networks, to make each of the detailed MGs still visible to MGC, and to make MGC not know the presence of the agent equipment in this invention.

Therefore, the Bouleros reference does not disclose or suggest the feature of providing agent equipments among MGs and a MGC located in different networks, and the agent equipment providing signaling agent and network address translation function among different networks. In addition, since the Bouleros reference does not teach or suggest “providing agent equipments among MGs and a MGC located in different networks,” it cannot teach or suggest that the agent equipment judges

whether the MGCP/MEGACO signaling sent to media gateway controller from media gateway is related to the media, namely, it does not disclose or suggest “for a MGCP/MEGACO signaling sent from the media gateway to the media gateway controller, if not related to media, directly replacing a transaction number by the agent equipment and then forwarding; if related to media, processing a media attribute correspondingly by the agent equipment and then forwarding; for a MGCP/MEGACO signaling sent from the media gateway controller to media gateway, sending the request message to corresponding media gateway by the agent equipment according to domain name in endpoint identifier,” as recited in amended claim 1.

In the Young reference, the MAND 1000 replaces Transaction ID of all the packets received, no matter whether it is sent from MG to MGC or MGC to MG. Therefore, the Young reference does not disclose that it needs to judge whether the MGCP/MEGACO message sent from MG to MGC is related to the media, i.e., “for a MGCP/MEGACO signaling sent from MG to MGC, if not related to media, directly replacing a transaction number by the agent equipment and then forwarding; if related to media, processing a media attribute correspondingly by the agent equipment and then forwarding; for a MGCP/MEGACO signaling sent from MGC to MG, sending the request message to corresponding media gateway by the agent equipment according to domain name in endpoint identifier.” Therefore, the Young reference fails to provide the teachings noted above as missing from the Bouleros reference.

Since the rejection fails to disclose or suggest each and every element of the rejected claims, Applicants respectfully submit that no *prima facie* case of obviousness has been established with respect to claim 1.

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully submit that the Bouleros and the Young references, individually or in combination, fail to teach or suggest each and every element of claim 1, and therefore, claim 1 is allowable over the cited prior art. Claims 2-8 are dependent from claim 1, and therefore, also allowable. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) be reconsidered and withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above remarks and amendments, Applicants respectfully submit that each of the pending objections and rejections has been addressed and overcome, placing the present application in condition for allowance. A notice to that effect is respectfully requested. Further, the above remarks demonstrate the failings of the outstanding rejections, and are sufficient to overcome the rejections. However, these remarks are not intended to, nor need they, comprehensively address each and every reason for the patentability of the claimed subject matter over the applied prior art. Accordingly, Applicants do not contend that the claims are patentable solely on the basis of the particular claim elements discussed above.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned, at the telephone number below.

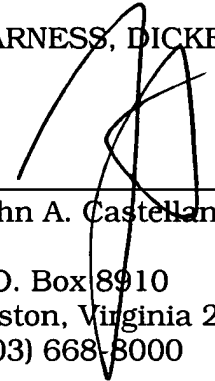
If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No.

08-0750 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

HARNES, DICKY, & PIERCE, P.L.C.

By



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